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COMMONWEALTH SECURITI

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MITT ROMNEY

KERRY HEALEY
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

STATE HOUSE • BOSTON, MA 02133 (617) 725-4000

March 19, 2003

The Honorable Edward J. Markey U.S. House of Representatives 2108 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Markey:

I understand that an amendment may be offered in the Energy and Commerce Committee that would adversely affect Massachusetts by changing the formula for distribution of Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) funding to the states. As you know, we have just come through one of the coldest winters on record, home-heating oil prices have skyrocketed, and our fiscal resources are severely stretched.

Changing the LIHEAP formula to steer funds away from our state would be a severe blow to our poorest citizens and to the state's ability to meet other pressing social needs. I strongly support your efforts to preserve the existing distribution formula and to prevent any erosion in these much-needed funds for our state.

Sincerely,

Mitt Romney Governor